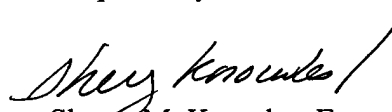


REMARKS

The specification has been amended to update the priority information. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended and claims 4 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of any previously claimed subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the above-referenced patent application are in condition for allowance and requests such action. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee associated with this Preliminary Amendment or any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0980. If any issues remain that may be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (404) 572-3451.

Respectfully submitted,


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reimbursement
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October 21, 2003

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